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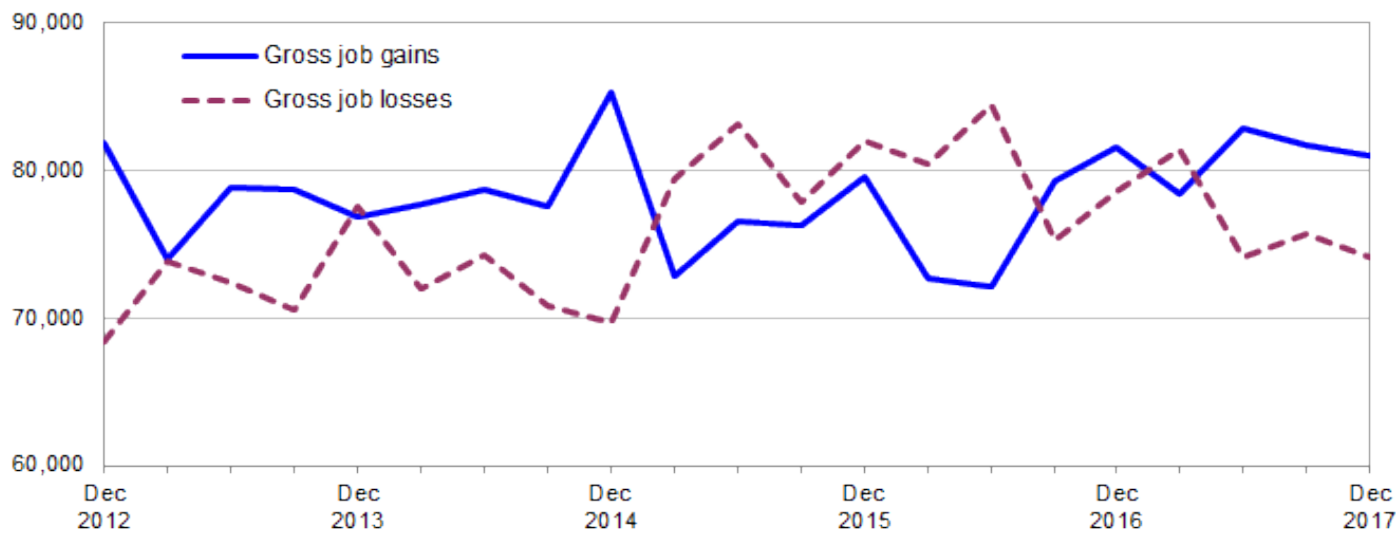
Business Employment Dynamics in Oklahoma – Fourth Quarter 2017

From September 2017 to December 2017, gross job gains in Oklahoma totaled 80,947, while gross job losses numbered 74,095, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. As a result, gross job gains exceeded gross losses by 6,852. (See [chart 1](#).) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Stanley W. Suchman noted that in the previous quarter, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses by 5,979.

The change in the number of jobs over time is the net result of increases and decreases in employment that occur at all businesses in the economy. Business Employment Dynamics (BED) statistics track these changes in employment at private business establishments from the third month of one quarter to the third month of the next. Gross job gains are the sum of increases in employment from expansions at existing establishments and the addition of new jobs at opening establishments. Gross job losses are the result of contractions in employment at existing establishments and the loss of jobs at closing establishments. The difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses is the net change in employment. (See the [Technical Note](#) for more information.)

The number of gross job gains in Oklahoma decreased by nearly 800 during the fourth quarter of 2017 after falling by more than 1,100 in the previous quarter. (See [chart 1](#).) Gross job losses fell by more than 1,600 in the three months ended in December 2017, after increasing by nearly 1,600 in the previous quarter.

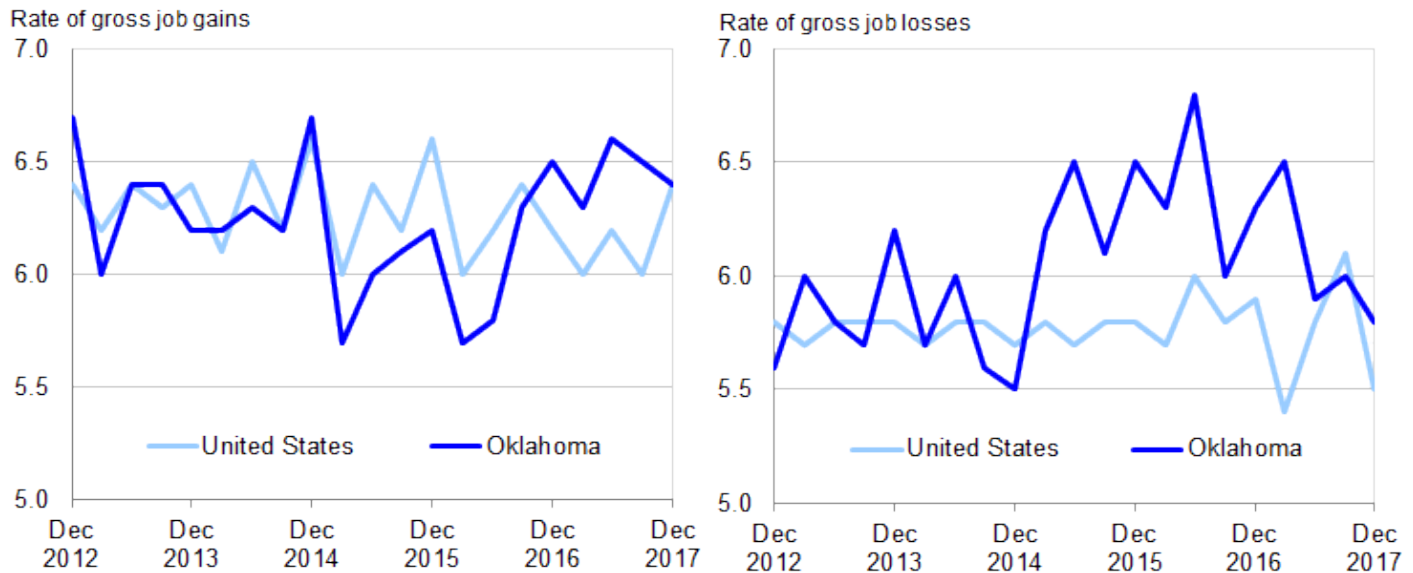
Chart 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses in Oklahoma, December 2012–December 2017 by quarter, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Gross job gains represented 6.4 percent of private sector employment in Oklahoma in the quarter ended December 2017, matching the national gross job gain rate. (See [chart 2](#).) The rate of gross job gains in Oklahoma has equaled or exceeded the national rate since December 2016. Oklahoma's rate of gross job losses as a percent of private sector employment was 5.8 percent compared to the national rate of 5.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2017. With the exception of September 2017, Oklahoma's rate of gross job losses has exceeded the U.S. rate since March 2015.

Chart 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of employment, United States and Oklahoma, December 2012–December 2017, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses in 6 of the 11 industry sectors in Oklahoma. For example, within transportation and warehousing, opening and expanding establishments added about 4,100 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost about 1,800 jobs. The resulting net gain of 2,315 jobs in the transportation and warehousing sector was the largest of any sector in Oklahoma in the fourth quarter of 2017. In leisure and hospitality, more than 15,200 jobs were created in opening and expanding establishments and almost 13,100 were lost in closing and contracting establishments, resulting in a net gain of 2,127, the second largest among the state's sectors. (See [table 1](#).)

Five industry sectors in Oklahoma registered net job losses during the latest quarter. Education and health services saw a net loss of 534 jobs, as opening and expanding establishments added 9,425 jobs while closing and contracting establishments lost 9,959 jobs. Construction had a net loss of 309 jobs during the quarter, as the 8,121 gross job losses offset the 7,812 gross job gains.

Additional statistics and other information

BED data for the states have been included in [table 2](#) of this release. For more information on the Business Employment Dynamics data, visit the BED website at www.bls.gov/bdm/.

The Business Employment Dynamics release for First Quarter 2018 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

Technical Note

The Business Employment Dynamics (BED) data are a product of a federal-state cooperative program known as Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), or the ES-202 program. The BED data are compiled by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from existing QCEW records. Most employers in the U.S. are required to file quarterly reports on the employment and wages of workers covered by unemployment insurance (UI) laws, and to pay quarterly UI taxes. The QCEW is based largely on quarterly UI reports which are sent by businesses to the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). These UI reports are supplemented by two additional BLS data collections to render administrative data into economic statistics. Together these data comprise the QCEW and form the basis of the Bureau's establishment universe sampling frame.

In the BED program, the quarterly QCEW records are linked across quarters to provide a longitudinal history for each establishment. The linkage process allows the tracking of net employment changes at the establishment level, which in turn allows the estimation of jobs gained at opening and expanding establishments and jobs lost at closing and contracting establishments.

The change in the number of jobs over time is the net result of increases and decreases in employment that occur at all businesses in the economy. BED statistics track these changes in employment at private business establishments from the third month of one quarter to the third month of the next. Gross job gains are the sum of increases in employment from expansions at existing establishments and the addition of new jobs at opening establishments. Gross job losses are the result of contractions in employment at existing establishments and the loss of jobs at closing establishments. The difference between the number of gross jobs gained and the number of gross jobs lost is the net change in employment.

Gross job gains and gross job losses are expressed as rates by dividing their levels by the average of employment in the current and previous quarters. The rates are calculated for the components of gross job gains and gross job losses and then summed to form their respective totals. These rates can be added and subtracted just as their levels can. For instance, the difference between the gross job gains rate and the gross job losses rate is the net growth rate.

The formal definitions of employment changes are as follows:

Openings. These are either establishments with positive third month employment for the first time in the current quarter, with no links to the prior quarter, or with positive third month employment in the current quarter following zero employment in the previous quarter.

Expansions. These are establishments with positive employment in the third month in both the previous and current quarters, with a net increase in employment over this period.

Closings. These are either establishments with positive third month employment in the previous quarter, with no employment or zero employment reported in the current quarter.

Contractions. These are establishments with positive employment in the third month in both the previous and current quarters, with a net decrease in employment over this period.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request: voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Oklahoma, seasonally adjusted

Category	Gross job gains and job losses (3 months ended)					Gross job gains and job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017
Total private ⁽¹⁾										
Gross job gains	81,574	78,427	82,854	81,713	80,947	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.4
At expanding establishments	64,197	62,627	62,495	64,658	65,706	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2
At opening establishments	17,377	15,800	20,359	17,055	15,241	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.2
Gross job losses	78,496	81,448	74,136	75,734	74,095	6.3	6.5	5.9	6.0	5.8
At contracting establishments	61,925	59,638	60,560	60,080	58,930	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.6
At closing establishments	16,571	21,810	13,576	15,654	15,165	1.3	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.2
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	3,078	-3,021	8,718	5,979	6,852	0.2	-0.2	0.7	0.5	0.6
Construction										
Gross job gains	7,199	7,526	7,669	8,581	7,812	9.2	9.8	10.0	11.1	9.9
At expanding establishments	5,627	5,940	6,118	6,790	6,232	7.2	7.7	8.0	8.8	7.9
At opening establishments	1,572	1,586	1,551	1,791	1,580	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.0
Gross job losses	8,501	8,254	7,713	7,983	8,121	10.9	10.8	10.0	10.4	10.3
At contracting establishments	6,875	6,184	6,373	6,012	6,847	8.8	8.1	8.3	7.8	8.7
At closing establishments	1,626	2,070	1,340	1,971	1,274	2.1	2.7	1.7	2.6	1.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-1,302	-728	-44	598	-309	-1.7	-1.0	0.0	0.7	-0.4
Manufacturing										
Gross job gains	4,733	5,050	5,452	4,726	5,118	3.7	3.9	4.3	3.7	4.0
At expanding establishments	4,168	4,480	4,727	4,257	4,374	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.3	3.4
At opening establishments	565	570	725	469	744	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6
Gross job losses	5,108	5,283	3,837	4,447	4,014	4.1	4.2	3.0	3.5	3.1
At contracting establishments	4,130	3,897	3,463	3,710	3,383	3.3	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.6
At closing establishments	978	1,386	374	737	631	0.8	1.1	0.3	0.6	0.5
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-375	-233	1,615	279	1,104	-0.4	-0.3	1.3	0.2	0.9
Wholesale trade										
Gross job gains	2,927	2,991	3,165	3,078	3,775	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.2	6.4
At expanding establishments	2,348	2,339	2,459	2,406	3,200	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1	5.4
At opening establishments	579	652	706	672	575	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0
Gross job losses	3,172	3,083	2,591	2,791	2,868	5.4	5.4	4.5	4.8	4.9
At contracting establishments	2,399	2,166	2,094	2,154	2,004	4.1	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.4
At closing establishments	773	917	497	637	864	1.3	1.6	0.9	1.1	1.5
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-245	-92	574	287	907	-0.4	-0.2	0.9	0.4	1.5
Retail trade										
Gross job gains	10,113	10,366	11,041	10,526	9,751	5.5	5.8	6.2	5.8	5.5
At expanding establishments	8,807	8,418	8,236	8,865	8,692	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.9
At opening establishments	1,306	1,948	2,805	1,661	1,059	0.7	1.1	1.6	0.9	0.6
Gross job losses	12,017	12,627	12,168	11,227	9,792	6.6	7.0	6.7	6.2	5.5
At contracting establishments	9,984	9,908	10,159	9,381	8,347	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.2	4.7
At closing establishments	2,033	2,719	2,009	1,846	1,445	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.8
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-1,904	-2,261	-1,127	-701	-41	-1.1	-1.2	-0.5	-0.4	0.0
Transportation and warehousing										
Gross job gains	4,462	2,535	2,329	4,063	4,134	8.6	4.8	4.5	7.7	7.6
At expanding establishments	4,157	2,116	1,771	3,523	3,664	8.0	4.0	3.4	6.7	6.7
At opening establishments	305	419	558	540	470	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.9
Gross job losses	2,349	4,208	2,202	1,750	1,819	4.5	8.0	4.3	3.4	3.3
At contracting establishments	1,648	3,619	1,761	1,512	1,440	3.2	6.9	3.4	2.9	2.6
At closing establishments	701	589	441	238	379	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.7
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	2,113	-1,673	127	2,313	2,315	4.1	-3.2	0.2	4.3	4.3
Information										
Gross job gains	1,065	850	807	680	877	5.1	4.1	3.9	3.3	4.4
At expanding establishments	922	643	724	596	620	4.4	3.1	3.5	2.9	3.1
At opening establishments	143	207	83	84	257	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.4	1.3
Gross job losses	1,019	1,216	1,196	1,204	993	4.9	5.8	5.7	5.9	5.0

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Oklahoma, seasonally adjusted - Continued

Category	Gross job gains and job losses (3 months ended)					Gross job gains and job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017
At contracting establishments	846	896	1,042	973	810	4.1	4.3	5.0	4.8	4.1
At closing establishments	173	320	154	231	183	0.8	1.5	0.7	1.1	0.9
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	46	-366	-389	-524	-116	0.2	-1.7	-1.8	-2.6	-0.6
Financial activities										
Gross job gains	4,139	3,480	3,524	3,969	3,990	5.4	4.6	4.6	5.2	5.1
At expanding establishments	3,084	2,816	2,630	2,807	3,042	4.0	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.9
At opening establishments	1,055	664	894	1,162	948	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.2
Gross job losses	3,857	3,981	3,396	3,570	3,557	5.1	5.1	4.4	4.6	4.6
At contracting establishments	2,815	2,721	2,770	2,706	2,683	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5
At closing establishments	1,042	1,260	626	864	874	1.4	1.6	0.8	1.1	1.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	282	-501	128	399	433	0.3	-0.5	0.2	0.6	0.5
Professional and business services										
Gross job gains	14,687	14,726	16,036	14,152	13,759	8.1	8.1	8.7	7.6	7.4
At expanding establishments	10,617	11,486	11,325	11,192	10,648	5.9	6.3	6.1	6.0	5.7
At opening establishments	4,070	3,240	4,711	2,960	3,111	2.2	1.8	2.6	1.6	1.7
Gross job losses	13,847	13,228	12,793	13,208	13,607	7.6	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.2
At contracting establishments	10,722	9,117	10,058	9,776	10,547	5.9	5.0	5.5	5.2	5.6
At closing establishments	3,125	4,111	2,735	3,432	3,060	1.7	2.3	1.5	1.8	1.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	840	1,498	3,243	944	152	0.5	0.8	1.7	0.6	0.2
Education and health services										
Gross job gains	10,193	9,864	10,391	9,605	9,425	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.5	4.5
At expanding establishments	8,146	7,995	8,024	7,656	7,448	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6
At opening establishments	2,047	1,869	2,367	1,949	1,977	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.9
Gross job losses	9,670	9,795	8,564	9,243	9,959	4.7	4.7	4.1	4.4	4.7
At contracting establishments	7,230	6,955	6,989	7,271	7,554	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.6
At closing establishments	2,440	2,840	1,575	1,972	2,405	1.2	1.4	0.8	0.9	1.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	523	69	1,827	362	-534	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.1	-0.2
Leisure and hospitality										
Gross job gains	14,887	13,632	14,164	15,168	15,205	9.0	8.2	8.5	9.1	8.9
At expanding establishments	10,502	10,331	10,071	10,685	11,758	6.3	6.2	6.0	6.4	6.9
At opening establishments	4,385	3,301	4,093	4,483	3,447	2.7	2.0	2.5	2.7	2.0
Gross job losses	12,876	13,809	14,007	14,528	13,078	7.8	8.3	8.4	8.7	7.7
At contracting establishments	10,804	10,517	11,399	12,159	10,659	6.5	6.3	6.8	7.3	6.3
At closing establishments	2,072	3,292	2,608	2,369	2,419	1.3	2.0	1.6	1.4	1.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	2,011	-177	157	640	2,127	1.2	-0.1	0.1	0.4	1.2
Other services ⁽³⁾										
Gross job gains	2,510	2,817	2,841	2,614	2,585	7.5	8.3	8.3	7.5	7.4
At expanding establishments	1,981	2,095	2,058	1,989	2,065	5.9	6.2	6.0	5.7	5.9
At opening establishments	529	722	783	625	520	1.6	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.5
Gross job losses	2,803	2,815	2,391	2,412	2,610	8.3	8.3	7.0	7.0	7.5
At contracting establishments	1,980	1,763	2,028	1,941	1,945	5.9	5.2	5.9	5.6	5.6
At closing establishments	823	1,052	363	471	665	2.4	3.1	1.1	1.4	1.9
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-293	2	450	202	-25	-0.8	0.0	1.3	0.5	-0.1

Footnotes:

(1) Includes unclassified sector not shown separately.

(2) The net employment change is the difference between total gross job gains and total gross job losses. See the Technical Note for further information.

(3) Except public administration.

Table 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of total employment by state, seasonally adjusted

State	Gross job gains as a percent of employment (3 months ended)					Gross job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017
United States ⁽¹⁾	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.4	5.9	5.4	5.8	6.1	5.5
Alabama	5.8	6.1	5.5	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.4
Alaska	9.8	9.4	11.0	8.5	9.4	10.0	9.8	9.9	10.5	10.2
Arizona	6.0	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.2	5.5	5.4	5.7	5.3	5.3
Arkansas	5.9	5.6	5.2	5.7	5.9	5.4	5.0	5.6	5.5	5.0
California	6.9	6.7	6.9	6.5	6.9	6.3	6.0	6.6	6.4	6.0
Colorado	6.6	6.8	7.1	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.1
Connecticut	5.1	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.7	5.1
Delaware	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.5	7.1	6.2	5.9	7.0	6.6	6.4
District of Columbia	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.7	5.6	4.7	5.6	5.3	5.0
Florida	6.7	6.1	6.6	5.6	8.1	6.1	5.5	6.1	7.5	5.2
Georgia	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.9	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.2	5.5
Hawaii	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.0	4.8	5.4	5.3	4.9
Idaho	7.5	7.9	7.3	6.7	7.4	6.7	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.4
Illinois	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.6	6.0	5.6	5.4	5.5	6.0	5.3
Indiana	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.1
Iowa	5.7	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.3
Kansas	5.9	5.8	5.5	6.3	6.1	5.7	5.6	6.6	5.7	5.2
Kentucky	6.1	5.7	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.4	5.9	5.8	5.4
Louisiana	5.9	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.5	5.9	6.5	6.1	6.0
Maine	7.4	7.2	7.7	6.5	7.1	7.1	6.4	7.7	7.5	6.7
Maryland	6.6	6.1	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.2	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.2
Massachusetts	5.6	5.5	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.6	5.6
Michigan	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.3	6.0	5.5
Minnesota	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.4	5.8	5.7	4.7	5.3	5.7	5.6
Mississippi	6.3	5.7	5.9	5.7	6.3	5.6	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.5
Missouri	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.9	5.6	5.6	4.9	5.6	5.9	5.4
Montana	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.2	8.5	7.5	7.1	7.7	8.0	7.4
Nebraska	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.2	6.1	5.9	5.5
Nevada	6.2	6.6	6.3	6.3	6.5	5.6	5.2	6.0	5.8	5.2
New Hampshire	6.3	5.7	6.6	5.6	6.6	5.9	5.6	5.9	6.5	5.9
New Jersey	6.4	5.5	6.7	6.0	6.5	5.9	5.8	5.5	6.2	5.6
New Mexico	6.6	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.0
New York	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.7	6.1	5.8
North Carolina	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.0	6.3	5.7	5.5	5.9	6.0	5.5
North Dakota	6.7	7.6	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.7	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.7
Ohio	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.1	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.4	5.6	5.2
Oklahoma	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.5	5.9	6.0	5.8
Oregon	6.6	6.9	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.3	5.7	5.9	6.3	6.0
Pennsylvania	5.4	5.2	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.2	4.9
Rhode Island	5.7	6.3	6.5	5.9	6.6	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.3	6.0
South Carolina	6.5	6.0	6.1	5.7	6.9	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.4	5.1
South Dakota	6.0	6.4	6.3	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.9	6.3	6.0	5.7
Tennessee	5.8	5.1	5.4	5.4	5.8	5.1	4.9	5.1	5.2	4.9
Texas	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.3	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.3
Utah	6.8	7.7	6.8	6.8	7.0	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.3	5.8
Vermont	7.0	6.6	7.9	6.7	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.8	7.8	6.4
Virginia	6.2	6.0	6.2	5.8	6.3	5.9	5.6	5.9	6.2	5.5
Washington	7.1	6.8	7.1	6.3	6.9	6.7	5.6	6.1	6.3	5.8
West Virginia	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.9	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.1
Wisconsin	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.0	5.6	5.3	4.8	5.5	5.7	5.0
Wyoming	8.8	8.8	8.5	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.1	9.0	7.9	8.3
Puerto Rico	5.8	5.1	5.2	4.1	7.1	5.4	5.7	5.2	6.2	11.7

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of total employment by state, seasonally adjusted - Continued

State	Gross job gains as a percent of employment (3 months ended)					Gross job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	June 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017
Virgin Islands	6.0	5.3	6.2	4.2	8.4	6.0	5.5	4.7	8.3	24.1

Footnotes:

(1) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.